THE

PATH-WAY

TO

Peace and Profit:

OR,

Truth in its Plain Dreſs.

WHEREIN

Is Methodically ſet forth a ſure and certain Way for the more ſpeedy and effectual Building and Repairing Their Majeſties *Royal Navy*, by ſuch Means, as may be ſaved more than One Hundred Thouſand Pound *per Annum.*

TOGETHER

With a propoſed Method for the Raiſing and Saving of Moneys for Monthly Payments accordingly. As alſo proper Rules and Methods, obſervable toward the making a Regulation in Their Majeſties Yards.

By *GEORGE EVERETT*, Ship-wright.

Licenſed, *Feb.* 17.
$169\frac{3}{4}$. *Edward Cooke.*

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TO THE

King and Queen's

Moſt Excellent

MAJESTIES.

May it Pleaſe Your Majeſties,

IT *is not Ambition, but a hearty and zealous Inclination, humbly to Devote my ſelf to Your Majeſties Service, with my weak, but ſincere Endeavours for the more ſpeedy and effectual Building and Repairing of Your Majeſties* Royal Navy, *by ſuch Rules and Methods, as may ſave* 100000*l.* per Annum, *to the great Benefit of Your Majeſties, the Eaſe of Your Subjects, and the general Welfare of the whole* Nation; *all which with*

my ſelf, I humbly beg to Proſtrate at Your Royal Feet, in Hopes of Your Gracious Protection, together with Your Acceptance and Encouragement of the ſame. And that God Almighty may for ever Preſerve Your Majeſties in Safety, Support and Direct You in Your Great Undertakings, and that Your Kingdoms and Dominions may be Settled in Peace and Tranquility, that Your Reign may be Long and Glorious, is, and ſhall be the continual Prayers of

Your MAJESTIES

Moſt Dutifull,

Obedient and Devoted

Subject and Servant,

Geo. Everett.

To

To the Right Honourable the Lords of Their Majeſties *Moſt Honourable Privy-Council.*

With Humble Submiſſion,

WHEN having conſidered that this preſent War ſo well begun, and carried on by Their Majeſties and others the Supream Magiſtrates and Rulers of this Kingdom; ſo highly tending to the General Good and Preſervation of the whole Nation, which, if well managed in all its Parts, could not fail of a happy Iſſue; but ſuch is Our Misfortune, That too many there be Intruſted in the Management thereof, who, too Regardleſs of the Publick Good, do in their ſeveral Stations proceed in the Management of this ſo great Affair, with ſo much Indifferency as may be juſtly feared, will in a great meaſure, retard and circumvent the Deſign of this ſo Pious and well-grounded Undertaking; I mean the War. The chief Subſiſtence next under God, and Their Majeſties, is Money, which, being hard to Raiſe,

Raiſe, in Regard of the General Poverty of the Nation occaſioned thereby, together with the Want of Trade, ought to be managed with all frugal Care and good Husbandry; for Want of which, the Treaſure of the Nation is much exhauſted, and great Part of that which ought to be imployed to encourage Vertue and Induſtry, is deſtroyed by Idleneſs and Extravagancy, as is fully demonſtrated in the following Propoſals: For, if thoſe Perſons Intruſted in the Management of the ſame, eſpecially thoſe in the Lower Sphere, would, in their ſeveral Stations, Diſcharge their Truſt with that Care and Fidelity as they ought, the Burthen of the War would be far more eaſy, and all thoſe ſeeming Clouds of Sorrow and Deſpair that do Annoy would ſoon vaniſh, and all its Attendants of Complaints and Poverty muſt then give Way to Courage and Magnanimity, which is the only means to vanquiſh and overcome Our Inſulting Foes, and thereby advance the Glory of the *Engliſh* Nation; and to this End, being moved by a zealous Deſign of ſerving and preſerving as much as in me lyeth Their Majeſties and the Publick, rather than any Private Intereſt, or Vain Deſire of Profit or Preferment, I humbly take Leave to lay before your Honours theſe my following Propoſals, as they were preſented to the Right Honourable

the

the Commiſſioners for Executing the Office of Lord High-Admiral of *England*; together with a Brief Account of my Proceedings, before that Honourable Board as they are Inſerted in this following Tract, all which with Submiſſion, I moſt humbly offer to your Honour's further Conſideration.

Your Lordſhip's

moſt Obedient and

Faithful Servant,

Geo. Everett.

To

To the Right Honourable the *LORDS Spiritual* and *Temporal*, and *Commons* in Parliament, Aſſembled.

I *Do humbly Addreſs my ſelf to this Auguſt and Honourable Aſſembly, by whoſe great Care and Generoſity the Charge of the War is ſupported; and who by your great Wiſdom and good Conduct are juſtly Styled the Great Council of* England; *not that I do intend hereby to Invade the* Royal Prerogative, *but rather Support and Maintain it: And to that End I do moſt humbly recommend theſe my following Propoſals to your more Prudent Conſideration, moſt heartily deſiring your* Honours *will be pleaſed to peruſe the ſame; and if any thing herein may be accounted profitable or uſeful to Their Majeſties and the Publick, That then you will incourage the ſame by a timely Recommendation thereof to Their Majeſties, and others concerned therein, for the promoting and advancing the Intereſt and Well-Being of the Preſent Government, which is the hearty Deſire of*

Your *Honour's*
moſt Faithful and
Obedient Servant,

Geo. Everett.

To

To the READER, *especially the Judicious, Loyal and Faithfull People of* England.

Gentlemen,

MANY Notions and Propoſitions have been the Product of this Age, moſt of them being founded on ſandy Ground, have rendred them altogether fruitleſs; others, that might have been uſefull to the Publick, for want of due Incouragement, have been buried in Oblivion: To avoid the like Fate, I could have been content to have been ſilent, had not the preſent Neceſſity of Affairs oblig'd me to appear in this kind. For who can obſerve the great Undertakings of Their Majeſties for the general Preſervation of this Nation, and ſtand idle and mute at ſuch time as the Publick Affairs require the Aſſiſtance of all its Members? As for my part, I do affirm that it is my Duty to appear in this general Cauſe, conſidering thoſe Honourable Aſſemblies, the *Lords* and *Commons* in Parliament, whoſe great Care it is to raiſe Money to carry on the ſame. I therefore hope it will not look amiſs in me, humbly to ſet forth theſe following Propoſals, intended for the ſaving ſuch conſiderable Sums, which may be of great Uſe in this Juncture, and will alſo avoid a great Inconveniency that attends the Impreſting of Men for Their Maje-

ſties Yards, which by the ill Practice of ſome, is as terrible as Death it ſelf. Which by an ill Cuſtom uſed in the Management thereof, is become one of the Publick Grievances of this Nation; not that I do intend herein, to charge any particular Perſon or Perſons with their Neglect of Duty, but rather ſubmit in that Point to better Judgments. But ſo it is, let the whole Charge of performing that Work be what it will, it may be preſumed, the full Half Part thereof, is waſted and conſumed; all which, may ſeem very hard and grievous, that the Induſtrious Part ſhould be Rent and Rack'd, to maintain others at ſo great Expence and Charge, in Idleneſs and Extravagancy: For by Impreſting and Forcing ſo many Men into thoſe Yards, Workmens Wages abroad is raiſed to an exorbitant Rate, and the Price of Building ſo highly advanced thereupon in theſe Parts, that the greateſt Part of Building is of late carried from hence into the Country, and is ready to take Wing for Foreign Nations; all which is occaſioned by means of the *Preſs* for thoſe Yards, which may be more fitly called *Oppreſſion:* For that Work may be ſufficiently carried on, to the great Advantage of all, with a likely Poſſibility of ſaving 2 or 300000*l. per Annum*, as is more fully demonſtrated in the following Propoſals. Theſe Publick Grievances, being acted in this lower Sphere, although very heavy and oppreſſive, it may be ſuppos'd that the Noiſe and Sound thereof, may not have aſcended the Ears or Knowledge of our Great Deliverers, Their Majeſties, and others in Supreme Authority, from whom a Redreſs of all our Sufferings is deſired and expected.

Having

Having near Twelve Months ſince Preſented to each Lord of the *Admiralty*, a Copy of my Propoſals, and the ſame being now made Publick, have by their Noble Character of Truth and Strength, not only paſſed the general Applauſe of all their Judicious Inſpecters, but are alſo become Acceptable to many Eminent Perſons, who, as a Mark of their Favour, have been Pleaſed to Commend and Incourage the ſame; I did on the Second of this Inſtant *February*, Preſent to the Honourable, the Lords of the *Admiralty*, by way of Application, a Copy of theſe Lines following, *viz.*

Right Honourable,

HAving formerly Preſented to your Honours ſome Propoſals, wherein is ſet forth a ſure and certain way for the more Speedy and Effectual Building and Repairing the Royal Navy, *by ſuch Methods as may be fairly ſaved* 100000l. per Annum *or more, to the great Benefit of Their Majeſties and the whole Nation: And the ſame having been Communicated to many Worthy and Eminent Perſons of ſeveral Ranks, who have given all due Incouragement thereunto, I humbly deſire that a time may be aſſigned me, to lay the ſame before this Honourable Board, in Order to the Promoting ſo Great and Profitable an Undertaking.*

Their Honours in Anſwer thereunto, were then pleaſed to Appoint me a Hearing on *Thurſday* the Eighth of this Inſtant, and did alſo direct, That I ſhould give an Account in Writing, how Money ſhould be Produced to carry on this Undertaking; which accordingly I did, which with my Propo-

ſals, was Read at the Admiralty-Board, in the Preſence of the Right Honourable, the Lord *Falkland*, Sir *John Lowther*, and Captain *Preſtman*; the Honourable Commiſſioners of the *Navy* being then Preſent, and was as followeth.

The

The Humble PROPOSALS *of* George Everett, *Shipwright, in* Rotheriff, *in Behalf of Their Sacred Majeſties, King* William *and Queen* Mary.

WIth Submiſſion to your Honours, having upon frequent View and Obſervation taken into Conſideration the many Irregular Practices of *Shipwrights*, and others imployed in Their Majeſties Yards, wherein is Loſt and Deſtroyed by Idleneſs and Extravagancy near 100000*l. per Annum*, by ſuch Ways and Means as tend not to the Profit of any, but great Prejudice to the whole Nation; which ſaid Sum, or more, may be ſaved according to the following Propoſals, wherein is briefly ſet forth a ſure and certain Way for the more ſpeedy and effectual Building and Repairing of Their Majeſties Royal Navy, by ſuch Rules and Methods as may be ſaved near one half of the whole now expended in the ſaid Yards, to the great Benefit of Their Majeſties, the Comfort and Happineſs of thoſe imployed therein, and the Eaſe and Welfare of the whole Nation.

AS the Beginning of the War is wholly intended for the common Good and Safety of the whole Nation, and the End thereof uncertain; ſo it may be highly neceſſary, That in the Management thereof every Perſon imployed therein ſhould, in their ſeveral Stations,

Stations, act with ſo much Courage, Frugality, and good Husbandry, as to make the Burthen thereof both Light and Eaſy: Imitating therein Their Majeſties moſt Pious Endeavours (who for the Benefit and Well-being of Their People and to preſerve them in Safety, do Expoſe Their Royal Perſons, even with the Hazzard of Their Lives, into the moſt dangerous Attempts;) and alſo the moſt Auguſt and Honourable Aſſemblies, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons of *England*, Aſſembled in Parliament; whoſe indefatigable Care and Induſtry is ſuch, in Raiſing and Granting ſuitable Supplies for ſo great a Work, That the Burthen and Charge thereof is not ſenſibly felt by the meaner ſort of Subjects.

Whilſt ſome others of Inferiour Rank, and imployed in the Management of the War, do not ſo ſincerely endeavour the Welfare and Well-being of their Majeſties and People, as in ſuch times of Exigency they ought to do; by which means the Burthen and Charge for carrying on the ſame is the more Heavy and Uneaſy to the Nation.

For Remedy thereof, I moſt humbly offer to your Lordſhips theſe following Propoſals, in Hopes of your Gracious Acceptance and Encouragement of the ſame, for the Service of Their Majeſties, the Eaſe of Their Subjects, and the Benefit of the whole Nation, as followeth, *viz.*

Under the Notion of *Shipwrights* is comprehended Ship-Carpenters, Calkers, Maſt-makers, Boat-makers, &c.

I. **That** for the common Good and Benefit of Their Majeſties, and the whole Kingdom, it is moſt humbly propoſed, That if *Shipwrights* Wages in Their Majeſties Yards were Advanced, and good Payment Monthly

Monthly made, for Working Weather only (as in Merchants Yards) the Work may be performed with leſs than half the Number of Men; who, for fear of being Diſcharged, would Labour hard. Or the greateſt part of the ſaid Workmanſhip may, as in other Yards, be let out by the Task, or Great, to able Work-men; whereby having Reſpect to Work, Wages, and the Number of Officers, whoſe Pay is continued as well in wet as dry Weather, as alſo the extravagant Waſte made in Timber and Plank by many idle Perſons imployed therein, the ſaid Work may be ſubſtantially performed with leſs than half the Number of Men, and more than half the Charge of Workmanſhip thereby ſaved, without prejudice to the Builders, who with their Aſſiſtance may have the Power of Ordering and Directing as heretofore.

If the New work be let out by the great, the Management thereof will wholly depend upon the Undertakers.

If the Work be ſo let out by the Great, there may be as much Money ſaved in one Month as will pay the Charge of the next two Months; and in times of Exigency, more than twice the Work may be performed by the ſame Number of Work-men; and all Charge and Trouble in Preſſing for ſuch Yards avoided; and Men would not expect to be Idle or Injurious.

This foregoing Paragraph being the Baſis hereof, is confirmed by the Company of Free Shipwrights, in the Eighth Article of their Caſe, formerly delivered to the Commiſſioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral of England.

II. That in impreſting of *Shipwrights* for the ſaid Yards Their Majeſties are at great Charges, and the Perſons impreſt think themſelves injured, to be compelled to ſerve therein for two Shillings and one penny *per* Day, and that running in Arrears, when in other Yards there is allowed near twice the Wages, and ready Money; which is a great Diſcouragement to induſtrious perſons, who are willing to take pains; which brings a Diſlike and Unwillingneſs of the Workmen, who go into ſuch Yards as if they were going to Priſon; which by a Regulation as aforeſaid would be eſteemed as a Palace: So that many imployed and impreſt therein do, for ſuch Reaſons, become very negligent

negligent in the performing their Duties, and ſpend great part of their time in Idleneſs: Together with Apprentices, whoſe Wages being fixt, and no regard had to Deſerts, their Maſters are indifferent whether they work, or not. And many ſuch take no Care or pains more than to anſwer to the Call, and to provide a Bundle of Chips, oft-times of more Value than their Wages; whereby Their Majeſties are highly injured, and many ſuch Apprentices by ill Management, after Seven Years Servitude, are altogether ignorant and uſeleſs. All which ſeems very Unreaſonable, That thoſe Yards which ought to be the Incouragement of Induſtry and Frugality, ſhould be the Promoters of Idleneſs and Extravagancy, at ſuch times as perſons of ſo uſeful a Trade, and Money the Life of all, is ſo much wanting to the Publick.

III. In the general Repairing of Their Majeſties Great Ships, wherein Cuſtom is obſerved more than the common Intereſt of the publick, after a vaſt Charge therein ſpent, to take ſuch Ship or Work to pieces, the Timber and Plank ſo taken out ſeldom comes to any Account; and the Ship to be ſo Rebuilt, or the Value thereof, is in it ſelf wholly loſt, yet another between Old and New is brought forth, though untimely, out of the pretended Ruins of the Old, at a far greater Charge than ſuch New Ship might have been wholly Erected and new Built from the Keel. So that therein accrues a double Loſs to Their Majeſties; for ſuch Old Ships might be of great Value and Uſe, if but ſold to break up; and the Timber and Plank now deſtroyed would for many good Uſes ſupply the place of New, and be a means to make it more cheap and plenty; and the Work-men whilſt taking

taking to pieces the Old would half build ſuch a New. So that in the Repairs of ſome one Ship Their Majeſties may ſave Two, Three, Four, and ſometimes Eight or Ten Thouſand Pound, or more; beſides the Advantage of having the Uſe of ſuch New Ship in half the Time.

IV. It is alſo to be obſerved, If it happen that any Ship of Their Majeſties do by any means miſcarry or periſh at Sea, the Loſs thereof is very grievous; but in the Building of Two, according to the Cuſtom uſed in Their Majeſties Yards, there is One loſt of the ſame Burthen, or the Value thereof, for want of good Management; yet ſuch Loſs is neither minded, nor regarded. Whereas, if Wages be advanced and paid, according to each Man's Deſerts, they would put themſelves forward in Hopes of Reward, as in Merchant's Yards; and by that means, if well managed, Thirty or Forty Men may do as much Work as a Hundred Men now do: So that in Workmanſhip may be ſaved Two or Three Thouſand Pound, or more, in Two Ships; which, by ſuch means, may be Built ſooner than One, beſides the Waſt of Timber and Plank, made by ſome near equal with their Wages.

V. If it ſhould be objected, That ſuch Regulations may be of great Difficulty and Prejudice to Their Majeſties, or any Perſon concerned or imployed under them: The *PROPOSER* humbly offers to perform the Regulation effectually in any one of Their Majeſties Yards in the Space of one Week; and in Nine, or Twelve Months, to prove the Advantage thereof, to the great profit of Their Majeſties, and

Benefit of Their Subjects. It being not his Deſign to propoſe any thing herein that may be Injurious to any, but of great Advantage to all. Firſt, in reſpect to Their Majeſties; in whoſe Yards there is allowed Two Shillings and One Penny *per* Day to Workmen, and to Apprentices Thirteen or Fourteen Pence *per* Day, for the firſt Year; increaſing yearly a Penny *per* Day: Which Wages accounted but ſmall is large in reſpect, if the Uncertainty of Weather be conſidered, which never proves to the Diſadvantage of thoſe therein imployed; whilſt others in Merchants Yards, having Three or Four Shillings *per* Day, are put by their Work for every Flurt of Rain, or Snow, or other intemperate Weather; who often, by ſuch means, do not work more than Four Weeks in Six. So that by Computation each Man's Wages in both Yards are near equivalent, but the Labour of Work-men is far different; inſomuch that Thirty or Forty Men in the Merchants Yards and imployed in Their Majeſties Work, do ſubſtantially perform more Work than a Hundred Men in Their Majeſties Yards, and in leſs Time.

VI. It may be further objected, That this may prove prejudicial to the Officers of Their Majeſties Yards. It is anſwered, That many of them have but Two Shillings and One Penny *per* Day, and having no proſpect of Advantage (let their Deſerts be never ſo great) they ſtill follow the common Road of Cuſtom: Yet, in Caſe of Regulation, it is ſuppoſed they would for ſuitable Incouragement deport themſelves in their ſeveral Stations with more Order, Courage and Induſtry, in the well Management of the ſeveral Work-men under their Charge, more eſpecially

their

their Apprentices, who in hopes of Gain may be made capable of deſerving more in One Year than ſome may now in Seven: By which means Their Majeſties might ſave much Money, the Nation be more plenty of able Work-men, their Maſters incouraged to train up Youth, and ſuch hereafter be capable of getting a decent Maintenance for themſelves and Families. It may likewiſe be ſuppoſed that at ſometimes, as well in War as Peace, the ſame Number of Men in Office may be ſufficient to perform the greateſt part of the Work.

VII. That the Work-men imployed in Their Majeſties Yards are, for want of ready Money, obliged to take up all their Neceſſaries they want upon Credit; and the perſons with whom they deal are, for that Reaſon obliged to do the like. So that it is moſt certain, that Work-men, eſpecially Strangers, impreſt therein, are obliged to pay double Extortion, and with Curbs and Abuſes accept of any thing; who otherwiſe, with ready Money, might buy what, and where they pleaſe, and be treated with Civility and Reſpect as others are. So that by ſuch a happy change many would be preſerved from Ruin.

If ſuch Payment were to be made, it would be of ſuch Advantage that many who now (in regard of Poverty) are exempted may be capable of paying ſuitable Taxes on all Occaſions.

VIII. That if ſuch Regulation be made in Their Majeſties Yards, the one half or more of the Work-men imployed therein may be diſcharged, which cannot be leſs than Four or Five Hundred Men; which being to diſtribute themſelves into other Yards, will cauſe the extravagant rate of Wages to abate and fall to the old rate of two Shillings, or two Shillings and Six-pence *per* Day; whereby the Charge of Building Shipping may be as cheap in time of War as in times of Peace;

which will much contribute to the Benefit of Their Majeſties, and the whole Nation.

IX. So that if a general Regulation were to be made, and well managed with Frugality and good Conduct; it may be preſumed, that the one half Charge of the whole now expended therein may be ſaved, to the great Benefit of the Nation without prejudice to any, which could not amount to leſs than 100000*l. per Annum* or more, and one third part of what may be ſo ſpared may be ſufficient to pay the Work-men and Officers employed therein.

X. If there be any ſuperannuated Ancient Men in the ſaid Yards, which by Falls and Bruiſes, may be in a great meaſure diſabled and unfit to ſeek imployment abroad, it may be better, and will be leſs Charge to maintain them out than in the Yards.

XI. That impreſting of *Shipwrights* being very Chargable to Their Majeſties, and prejudicial to the Subjects, more eſpecially the Maſter *Shipwrights*, who are great Sufferers in their Apprentices; whoſe Parents of good Eſteem do frequently give large Sums of Money to bring up their Children to ſo good and uſeful a Trade, who are by the preſs hurried and taken away before they underſtand any part thereof; whereby ſuch parents are injured, their Children totally ignorant for want of Experience and Inſtruction, and the Maſters being limited to a Number, not to exceed three or four, are become deſtitute of Servants to carry on their Trade; and often damnified by the Loſs of an Apprentice Forty, Fifty, or an Hundred pound thereby.

XII.

XII. **That** ſuch a practice and proſpect of idleneſs in ſuch Yards in an Allurement to Apprentices, who having a place of Refuge to maintain them therein, they are under no Government, but are become inſolent and maſterleſs: And in ſuch employments are of no profit, either to the publick, their Maſters, or themſelves: But do for the moſt part ſpend all their Wages, or otherwiſe loſe it by running from place to place, or from Ship to Ship.

The Propoſer moſt humbly deſiring he may be allowed to Anſwer and give Reaſons to all Objections that may be made touching the premiſſes.

All which, with Submiſſion, is moſt humbly offered to your Honours Conſideration.

A Propoſed METHOD

for the Raiſing and Saving of Moneys for Monthly Payments, according to what hath been Propoſed.

May it Pleaſe your Honours,

THAT having on the Second of this Inſtant propoſed to this Board, a Method *for the ſaving* 100000l. per Annum *in the Building and Repairing the* Royal Navy, *wherein it is humbly propoſed for the Incouragement thereof, That all* Officers *and* Workmen *Imployed therein, be duely paid every Month.*

Your Honours *were then Pleaſed to Direct, That I ſhould give an Account to this Board in Writing, how and where Money ſhould be Raiſed to carry on the ſame, purſuant thereunto. I moſt humbly offer my Sentiments as followeth,* viz.

I. **That** the Raiſing of Money muſt be as formerly, by Parliament, and not by any ſingle Perſon, eſpecially of my Capacity.

II. **That** Half the Money ſo Raiſed and Allowed for ſuch Purpoſes, had been, if well managed, ſufficient to have defrayed the whole Charge, without running on Arrears, and the other Half might have been uſefull to other Purpoſes: And this ought to have been the particular Care of all Officers, to whom the Management thereof hath been Commmitted.

Thus

Thus having deſcribed the Fountain from whence the Moneys muſt ariſe, as alſo a Sufficiency of defraying (if well ordered) the whole Charge, with leſs than Half the Sum. I humbly proceed as followeth.

III. If the Number of Work-men in Their Majeſties Yards at preſent, be 3000, and the yearly Charge of maintaining them therein be 93600*l.* then the Quarterly Charge will be 23400*l.* and that generally paid Quarterly. It is further propoſed, That the ſuperfluous Number Imployed therein, may be diſcharged, which cannot be leſs than 60 out of every 100, ſo that the 3000 as aforeſaid, may be reduced to 1200; which if well managed, will be ſufficient to carry on the whole Work; and by ſuch means the Charges will be leſſened to 39440*l. per Annum*, 9860*l.* Quarterly, and Monthly, 3286*l.* Here it may be ſuppoſed that where there is a Probability of paying 23400*l. per* Quarter, there may be a Poſſibility of paying 3286*l. per* Month. The Charges and Difference ſo Stated, I moſt humbly proceed to give my Judgment for ſaving and providing Money to defray the Charge Monthly, *viz.* If the preſent Charge as aforeſaid, be 93600*l. per Annum*, it is ſuppoſed that Money may be produced as formerly for Quarterly Payment, which may amount to 23400*l. per* Quarter: Let the Number of Work-men be reduced as aforeſaid, the Monthly Charge may be 3286*l.* then ſuppoſing ſuch Regulations were agreed, and to begin this Day, One Month being expired, let Money be provided to defray the Charge. The Queſtion is, how and where? Here lies the Difficulty. To which I anſwer, If it cannot be provided otherwiſe, let it be

be borrowed at 10*l. per Cent.* for the Firſt Month, and ſo likewiſe for the Second againſt the Third Month. It may be ſuppoſed that the Quarterly Sum may be provided as formerly, which is ſuppoſed to be 23400*l.* out of which is to be paid the Two borrowed Sums, with Intereſt, *viz.* 3286*l.* with Two Months Intereſt, and 3286*l.* with One Months Intereſt, and 3286*l.* the Charge of the Third Month without Intereſt. Theſe together will amount to 9890*l.* or thereabouts, which being deducted out of the aforeſaid Sum of 23400*l.* ſuppoſedly provided for the Firſt Quarterly Payment, the Remainder will be 13510*l.* which if preſerved in Bank for the purpoſe aforeſaid, may defray the Charge of the next Four Months, and to ſpare, in which Four Months may be ſaved ſufficient to defray the Charge of the next Six Months, and ſo proportionably for a longer time: So by this Rule may be ſaved in Wages, 54090*l.* in One Year, beſides the Waſte that is made in thoſe Yards, which cannot be leſs than Twice the Value, which by Computation, will amount to in the whole, 162120*l. per Annum*, beſides the great Trouble and Charge expended in Preſſing for ſuch Yards. If it ſhould be further Objected, That Money cannot, or may not be provided out of the Treaſury at the end of the ſaid Three Months, it may then be further provided as aforeſaid, at Intereſt for Three, Four, or Five Months or more, untill a ſufficient Stock may by ſuch means be ſaved for the carrying on the ſame; which I humbly conceive may with little Trouble, be gained in the Firſt Three Months: This with Submiſſion, I hope, may be a ſatisfactory Anſwer to the Queſtion propoſed. And by this means alſo may be ſpared out of thoſe Yards,

1800

1800 Men, who may be of great Uſe in carrying on the General Trade of the whole Nation. I have been the larger in clearing this Point, as knowing it to be the Baſis on which the whole Work depends: So by this it doth plainly appear, That the providing of 6 or 7000*l.* to defray the Charge of the Firſt Two Months, the whole Work may be ſufficiently performed by ſuch means, as may be ſaved to the great Advantage of Their Majeſties, 100000*l.* *per Annum*, or more.

Which being Read, was Allowed and Approved, ſave only in this, that I ſhould give Security for the Performance thereof; to which I humbly anſwered, That I did not deſire to handle the Publick Treaſure, my Propoſals having paſſed the general Conſent of their *Honours*, together with the Approbation of many the moſt Eminent and Credible Perſons, ſeveral in Places of the greateſt Truſt; and being in it ſelf no way doubtfull, might have been ſufficient to have made the ſame Practicable: But their *Honours* were farther pleaſed to inſiſt on this Point, which I did humbly take as a final Anſwer. To which I add, That Truth and right Reaſon, with ſuch Harmonious Conſent as aforeſaid, may be ſufficient Security for the Management of this ſo great Affair. And farther, That the ſame ought to be put in Practice, partly to avoid thoſe great Injuries occaſioned by the *Preſs*; and chiefly for the general Preſervation of Their Majeſties and Publick, in ſaving ſuch Conſiderable Sums of Money, ſo much wanting for other Purpoſes.

Proper RULES *moſt humbly offered toward the making a Regulation.*

For the making a Regulation in Their Majeſties Yards, it is humbly Propoſed, That theſe following Rules *and* Methods *be obſerved*, viz.

I. That 60 out of every 100 Imployed therein, may be diſcharged, and the others continued as followeth; having reſpect to the Wages allowed in Merchants Yards, to be monthly altered, as Occaſion may require.

II. That the Workman-ſhip of all new Boats, as alſo of all Maſt-work, be lett out by the Great, by which means, One Man may do more Work than Four; and the Care and Management thereof, will wholly depend upon the Undertakers.

III. That every Perſon being a Maſter Foreman of any Ship-work, may be allowed Four Shillings *per* Day.

IV. That every Quarter-man and other Officers, having Charge of Work-men, be allowed Three Shilling and Six Pence *per* Day.

V. That every Able Work-man, be allowed Three Shillings *per* Day, and under, according to each Mans Deſerts.

VI. That every Apprentice Imployed therein, may be allowed One Shilling *per* Day for the Firſt Year;

Year; that being expired, his Wages to be advanced according to Deſerts; all ſuch Wages as aforeſaid, to be accounted only when they work, or ſhall be ſo Imployed, and not otherwiſe.

VII. **That** all Sawyers may be debarred of Chipps, and in lieu thereof, each Pair to be allowed Four Pence *per* Day, and Two Pence *per* Hundred more Wages; by ſuch Means may be ſaved Three times more Money than their whole Wages amount unto.

VIII. **That** in Repairing Their Majeſties Ships where the Charge is like to be great, ſuch Ship may be opened within Board and without, in ſuch Places as ſhall appear to be moſt deficient; and being then ſurveyed, if it ſhall appear by computing the Charge thereof, to be near equal the Value of ſuch new, then to diſpoſe of the ſame as may be moſt Convenient and Advantageous.

IX. **That** when, and ſo often as any new Ship of the Firſt, Second, or Third Rate, ſhall be erected or ſet upon the Stocks, another of the Fourth, Fifth, or Sixth Rate, may alſo be erected, to the end, that all Timber, Plank, and other Stuff under Size for the one, and accounted but as Waſte, may be uſefull in Building the other, according to a Proverb of great Note in Merchants Yards, that is, *To build a ſmall Ship out of a great one's Chips.*

X. **That** if a Ship ſhould happen to prove tender ſided, it will be far better, and leſs Charge, to proportion the ſailing Materials to ſuch Ships, than

ſuch Ships to the Materials, by taking the Body to pieces; which too often happens, to the great Prejudice and Hindrance of Their Majeſties Affairs.

XI. **That** Timber, eſpecially ſmall and ſtreight, may not be laid into the ſaid Yards in ſuch great Quantities, which being almoſt uſeleſs, creates a great Charge in Carriage from one Place to another, and often lies and rots, whilſt Money Imployed on ſuch Occaſions, is wanting for purpoſes far more uſefull.

XII. **That** the Overſeers may be allowed to Inſpect all Naval Stores therein Received and Delivered.

XIII. **That** Money being provided and monthly paid, according to the Methods herein ſpecified, ſuch Change may be happily made, by which means it may be preſumed, the one Half Charge now expended, may be ſaved, to the great Benefit of Their Majeſties and the whole Nation, and all Charges and Trouble of Preſſing for thoſe Yards avoided.

XIV. **Laſtly,** Much more may be added, which for brevity is omitted; it being humbly prayed, That the Overſeers thereof, may with Conſent of your *Honours*, have Leave to make all advantageous Alterations, as well not mentioned as otherwiſe. So humbly deſiring that Tryal may be made according to the Rules and Methods herein ſpecified, Proof and Experience, which are the beſt and ſureſt Demonſtrations, will ſoon diſcover the great Profit and Advantage that may accrue by what hath been moſt humbly offered.

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POST-SCRIPT.

IF it ſhould be Objected, That in times of Expedition Their Majeſties Affairs may be prolonged in Prejudice to Their Great and Honourable Undertakings, it is Anſwered, That ſince it is ſo plainly demonſtrated and generally believed, That 30 or 40 Men can, and may perform as much as 100 now do, no Detriment can enſue thereby. But to prevent all further Doubts that may ariſe, it muſt be allowed, That Their Majeſties upon all Occaſions, may have the ſame Liberty, without the leaſt Reſtraint or Reſtriction, to cauſe Men to be Impreſt as formerly. But to avoid the ſame, it is humbly preſumed, That thoſe Yards may in ſuch times of Exigence, be better ſupplyed in One Day by Letters directed to the *Maſter-Wardens* of each Company of *Ship-wrights*, than in One Month; and 100 ſuch Perſons Imployed on the Terms aforeſaid, may perform as much as 300 compell'd unwillingly to ſerve therein by the Preſs, and all the Charge thereof avoided. Again, It ſeems very hard in the Judgment of all good Men, that Moneys raiſed with ſo much Care and Trouble, and intended for the Incouragement of Induſtrious and Deſerving People, ſhould be ſo vainly deſtroyed in Idleneſs and Extravagancy, at ſuch time as it is ſo much wanting to the Publick.

Again, If Charity ſhould ſo far abound, as to maintain ſuch Superfluity of Idleneſs, it may be preſumed, that for the Publick Good of Their Majeſties and the Nation, it will be far leſs Charge to allow many Imployed therein 20*s.* *per* Week to maintain them out, rather

rather than 10*s. per* Week to have them in ſuch Imployment, as being a Pattern of ſuch evil Examples to others.

In all that hath been Propoſed herein, it was not deſigned as Reflection on any. For what is practiſed therein now, is not to be looked on as a New Method, but rather as an Ancient Cuſtom of long ſtanding, which by ſuch Cuſtom and evil Example hath been received from One Age to another; and ſo not any Perſon to be much blamed, although it is apparent that by long Uſe, it is every Year grown worſe and worſe.

But however, Let the Meaſures or Methods be what they will, if it doth appear by what hath been Propoſed, that better may be now taken, and ſuch as may be of ſo great Uſe and Advantage, it cannot be thought unreaſonable to lay ſuch Old Methods aſide, to make way for New, (eſpecially ſuch as may be ſo Advantageous and Profitable) no more than for a Prudent Mariner, who foreſeeing a Storm, doth make for a good Harbor, to avoid Ship-wrack.

Although it is commonly objected that Propoſals of this Kind (let them be never ſo profitable) do ſeldom proſper, except brought forth and managed by Perſons of Honour and Grandeur. To which it is humbly Anſwered, That the Matter it ſelf being Juſt and Honourable, and of ſo great Uſe and Benefit to Their Majeſties and the whole Nation, it ought not to be ſlighted for the Author's ſake; eſpecially when conſidered how far Loyalty and Duty, accompany'd with a firm and conſtant Mind, hath often produced in all Ages, great Advantages to the Publick.

Thus having for the general Good, expoſed my ſelf to the publick Cenſure in a Matter of ſo great Importance, in ſo mean and plain a Dreſs; which may be

juſtly

juſtly attributed to the want of Education rather than want of Judgment. However, for what I have written I deſire no Praiſe but Patience, being altogether unworthy to be accounted a Work-man in this kind, knowing it is impoſſible for me as well as others, to pleaſe all. And although there be many carping Zealots, who in Envy to the Cauſe more than the Author, may be ready to cavell with me for the ſame, I ſhall little regard the evil Cenſure of thoſe, who I never did intend to make my Judges, but ſhall in all things ſubmit to the Judgment of the more Prudent and well Affected to the Government.

All which I ſhall conclude in the Words of the Reverend Doctor *Burnet*, in his Sermon Preached before the Honourable Houſe of *Commons* the 31*ſt*. of *January*, 1688. His Concluſion was, *That there be no breaking in, nor going out; nor no complaining in the ſtreets.* Then with the Pſalmiſt, *Happy is the People that is in ſuch a caſe; yea, and happy is the People whoſe God is the Lord.*

If Sparing it be Thrift, as Wiſe Men hold,
Then let us ſpare our Silver and our Gold:
'Twill make our Cannons Roar, and Hero's ſing
God Save Great William *and His Royal Queen*
M A R Y,
The Glorious Patern of true Majeſty.
Whom God Preſerve in Peace and Righteouſneſs,
And Crown their Deeds with Glory and Succeſs.

F I N I S.